



Borough of Chatham.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
REPORTS
1908.

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Borough of Chatham.

TO THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION.

GENTLEMEN,

In placing before you my Report on the Sanitary condition of the Urban District of Chatham for the year ending December 31st, 1908, I am pleased to again congratulate you on the continued healthy state of the Borough. In my Reports for 1906 and 1907 I was able to record very low rates of mortality, lower in fact than any which had occurred during my 20 years experience as your Medical Officer, and it is gratifying to find that the year 1908 shows a continued decrease in the Mortality rate, and also a diminution in the number of cases of infectious disease.

I think that your Sanitary Committee can fairly claim some credit for this satisfactory condition of affairs, and if a larger number of the inhabitants of this district paid as much attention to personal and domestic cleanliness as the Sanitary Authority does to public cleanliness, the health of the Borough would be still further improved. In my Report for 1907, I referred, at some length, to the ignorant apathy of many people as compared with the intelligent activity almost universally shown by Public Health Authorities, and see no reason to modify the views then expressed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.....	4,444,298
Population (Census 1901)	37,057
„ (estimated)	42,971
Births registered	1,038
Birth Rate per 1,000	24·2
Nett Deaths registered.....	558
Death Rate per 1,000	12·9
Zymotic Death Rate	1·3
Infantile Mortality per 1,000	127
Annual Rateable Value	£148,195

The Borough of Chatham is situated on the southern bank of the river Medway and extends chiefly in a south-easterly direction. Its physical features consist of a series of valleys with intersecting ridges, and the oldest property in the district is found in the depressions, whilst the newer houses are built on the higher sloping ground. The underlying formation is chalk, with a varying depth of overlying soil, and in the Luton valley is a bed of clay over the chalk. The level of the ground water in the lower parts of the town

is about 8 feet from the surface. In the older parts of the town, particularly in St. Mary's Ward, and in a portion of St. John's Ward, there are a good many old and dilapidated houses needing the constant supervision of your officials, but which will, I trust, gradually be replaced by buildings of a better type. Fortunately there is plenty of open space in the vicinity of this bad property, which is no doubt greatly instrumental in counteracting its deleterious influences on the people who live in it.

POPULATION.—The estimate of population has been arrived at in the usual manner, by assuming that the rate of increase between intercensal periods is of constant proportion, and that the average number of inhabitants per house is the same. Conditions of trade generally, and in the Borough of Chatham, of the Dockyard particularly, are responsible for fluctuations in the population, which makes an exact estimate very difficult, but I trust that when the census of 1911 takes place I shall not have erred by over-estimating the population, and so made the Borough appear more healthy than it really is. My estimate of the population up to the middle of 1908 is 42,971.

The bulk of the inhabitants of the district are of the artizan and labouring class mostly employed in the Dockyard; a few are occupied in the making of clothing, and the rest are tradespeople, service pensioners, and such as are concerned in the supply and manufacture of such articles as the general population demands.

BIRTHS.—The total number of Births registered during 1908 was 1,038, of these there were 507 males and 531 females. There were 42 illegitimate births—7 in St. Mary's Ward; 28 in Luton Ward; and 7 in St. John's Ward.

Birth rate 24·2 per 1,000.

The following table shows the natural increase of population, that is, the increase of Births over Deaths in each division of the Borough.

	Births.	Deaths.	No. of Births over Deaths.
St. Mary's Ward	197	122	75
Luton Ward	590	241	359
St. John's Ward	251	121	130
	<hr/>		
	1038	484	564
Deaths in Institutions...		74	74
		<hr/>	
		558	490

The nett result is an increase of Births over Deaths of 490.

DEATHS.—The nett total of registered Deaths is 558, This number is formed by certain corrections of the actual return received from the Registrar, which includes all persons dying in the Borough. These corrections consist in the exclusion of the deaths of such persons as belong to other localities, and the inclusion, so far as can be ascertained, of the deaths of such persons as belong to Chatham, but who have died outside the district. The former class are known as “non-residents,” the latter as “residents.”

The deaths of “non-residents,” chiefly persons belonging to the neighbouring Boroughs of Rochester and Gillingham, occurred with one or two exceptions, in the Medway Union Infirmary, whilst the deaths of the “residents” were in St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, St. William’s Hospital, and Fort Pitt Military Hospital, all of which are in the Rochester Registration District.

The following table shows the number of Deaths during the past eight years.

1901	.....	646	1902	.....	674
1903	.....	574	1904	.....	630
1905	.....	578	1906	.....	560
1907	.....	581	1908	.....	558

The total number of Deaths occurring in the Medway Union Infirmary was 136, of which number 74 were of “residents,” and 62 “non-residents,” the latter being inhabitants of Rochester and Gillingham.

The rate of mortality is 12·9 per 1,000.

The following table shows the mortality in England and Wales during 1908, as compared with Chatham.

	Annual Rates per 1,000, living.			
	Births.	Deaths all ages.	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Infant Mortality.
England and Wales	26·5	14·7	1·29	121
76 Great Towns ...	27·0	15·8	1·59	128
142 Smaller Towns	26·0	14·7	1·26	124
England and Wales less the 218 Towns	26·2	13·8	0·99	110
Chatham	24·2	12·9	1·1	127

The ages at which deaths occurred were as follows :—

Under 1 year.....	132
1 and under 5 years.....	63
5 and under 15 years.....	23
15 and under 25 years.....	25
25 and under 65 years.....	178
65 and upwards.....	137

The numbers registered in different parts of the Borough was as follows :

St. Mary's Ward	122
Luton Ward.....	241
St. John's Ward	121
Medway Workhouse	74

The number of deaths during each quarter of the year was :

First Quarter	172
Second Quarter	118
Third Quarter	120
Fourth Quarter	148

The numbers registered during each month were :—

January ...56	February .....68	March .....48
April .....43	May .....44	June .....31
July.....31	August.....45	September 44
October.....51	November ....48	December 49

Diseases of the respiratory organs due to cold and inclement weather were responsible for the larger mortality during the first quarter of the year, but with that exception there has been no especial prevalence of disease during the year, and the low general mortality is due to the small number of deaths from Diarrhœal diseases, this being due to the absence of excessive heat in the summer months.

Table I. appended to the Report gives a comparative statement of births, deaths and rate of mortality during the past ten years.

The population of each Ward can be approximately determined by ascertaining the number of inhabited houses in each ; and allowing an average number for each house calculated on this basis, the following are the rates of mortality in each Ward :—

St. Mary's Ward.....	12·3 per 1000
Luton Ward	11·3 per 1000
St. John's Ward.....	9·5 per 1000

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The Infantile Mortality, or number of deaths under 1 year of age, to every 1000 births registered is 127 per 1000, as compared with 124 during 1907, 137 during 1906, 126 during 1905, and 178 during 1904.

Table V. shews in detail the various causes of deaths amongst infants.

It is not saying too much in stating that this subject of Infant Mortality is one of the greatest blots on the sanitary progress of this country, and it is a curious fact that whilst the general mortality has

largely declined for several years, the reduction of the mortality amongst young infants shows little sign of diminution. I have constantly alluded to this subject in my Annual Reports; and its importance must be my excuse for again drawing special attention to it.

It is obvious that under the best possible conditions, and under all circumstances, what may be called the normal and unavoidable loss of life amongst infants must be relatively greater than amongst older persons. Their immaturity, their frailty, the presence of inherited defects, and their entire dependence on maternal or other care increase their inability to resist ailments which in older children would be trifling in character; but making every allowance for these causes, there still remain a large number of deaths amongst young infants, which, broadly speaking, are due to the want of intelligent care bestowed by the mother on her offspring, and it is equally true that much of this mortality is seasonal in character, and that it varies immensely in certain districts, always following the rule that it is highest in those localities where overcrowding, poverty, dirt, improvidence and intemperance are most prevalent. The practice of suckling infants is out of fashion, and a large proportion of mothers are only too ready to shirk this important duty, in favour of artificial feeding, which gives them more leisure. In houses of the better class and amongst the more intelligent and cleanly members of the population, who take great care in regard to the cleansing of feeding bottles, to the quality and condition of the milk, to adequate provision for the storage of food, and to the sanitary condition of their dwellings generally, there is comparatively little risk in artificial feeding, but where the reverse conditions obtain, where the surroundings are insanitary, and where domestic cleanliness is not practised, then the infants' risks are intensified a hundredfold, and with the advent of a period of hot, dry weather, certain changes of a putrefactive character are readily produced in infants' food, and an excessive increase in infant mortality invariably occurs. It is proved beyond a doubt that wrong methods of feeding are responsible, for there is no change in the habits of the people, who do not display or practice greater care for their children at one period of the year, than at another.

The central fact to be taught and practiced in the rearing of infants is "Suckle your Baby." This is the first and most important duty of motherhood, and however bad the surrounding circumstances may be, the breast-fed infant has a reasonable chance of existence—the bottle-fed infant under like conditions is nearly certain to succumb. These conditions are worthy of consideration. In some localities, infant mortality is always high, and the more insanitary the surroundings, the more overcrowded and ill-ventilated

dwelling, the more thriftless and dirty the mother, the less chance has the infant of survival, and when intemperance is added, as it generally is under these circumstances, then the outlook is bad indeed. It is within the powers of every local authority to improve the surroundings of houses, to insist on their maintenance in tenable repair, and if its resources allow, to sweep them entirely away, to keep courts and alleys in a well paved condition, so as to facilitate their cleansing, to insist on the prompt and frequent removal of insanitary rubbish from the vicinity of dwellings, and by these measures prevent a certain amount of sickness and disease. Attempts to educate mothers in the importance of domestic hygiene, and the management of infants, by voluntary or other agencies are also worthy of trial, and might well be substituted for the comparatively useless form of district visiting which occupies so much time, with so very little apparent benefit; but until the fouling of a house by a neglectful and dirty tenant becomes a penal matter, I am afraid that the teaching will be of little value.

In my Report for 1907, I alluded to the Notification of Births' Act, the adoption of which will not be sanctioned by the Local Government Board, unless at the same time a Local Authority takes steps for carrying out the ultimate object of the measure, viz.: the giving of advice and instructions to those who have charge of infants—in other words—the appointment of some person whose duty it would be to periodically visit and advise mothers (especially of the poorer class), with respect to the general care and management of their infants. Many Doctors object to the provisions of the Act, or rather to the procedure enjoined, and enquiries I have made locally do not show unanimity in favour of its adoption, though, as I have stated before, I do not think the difficulties are as great as some imagine.

A reference to Table V. will show that illegitimate children succumbed in exactly double the proportion of legitimate children, and as these children are generally looked after by some person other than the mother, it is an excellent illustration of the harm done by neglect, and by the absence of proper maternal care.

SEX.—The number of deaths amongst males was 291, and females 267.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.—From this class of diseases, excluding Phthisis, the number of deaths registered was 83, as compared with 92 in 1907, 75 in 1906, 93 during 1905, and 86 during 1904.

These deaths were due to the following diseases :—

Bronchitis	34
Pneumonia.....	47
Pleurisy	1
Other Respiratory diseases	1

PHTHISIS OR PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—This disease caused 51 deaths. During 1904-'05-'06-'07 the deaths were 75, 63, 56, 56 respectively.

From Tubercular disease of other parts of the body, 16 deaths were registered.

Mortality 1·2 per 1000

The importance of Tuberculosis is such as to demand from every Medical Officer of Health something more than a mere recital of its annual ravages, which are but inadequately expressed by its mortality, for beyond the thousands who succumb, there are an infinitely greater number of sufferers whose health and capacity are permanently impaired by Tubercle.

It is an infectious disease, and logically is therefore capable of control by suitable preventive measures, and whilst its limitation is probable, I fear its ultimate extinction, which many hope for, is likely to be long delayed. Many people fail to grasp the fact that Tuberculosis is an infectious disease, and are apt to think that it is hereditary, in fact so ingrained in this belief, that the occurrence of a case of Phthisis is looked upon with surprise, because no one in the family had hitherto suffered from this disease.

In this district a system of voluntary notification has existed since 1904, but owing to the apparent reluctance of Medical Men to notify their cases, the system does not receive a fair trial. During 1908 only 6 notifications were received. With respect to fatal cases, the Registrar of Births and Deaths supplies prompt information, and in every case an effort is made to secure adequate cleansing and disinfection of rooms occupied by Tubercular patients.

The action taken in respect of notified cases is as follows :—The premises are visited and a note is taken of their sanitary condition, so that any obvious defect, or want of cleanliness can be remedied. A Circular containing advice with respect to the general hygienic management of Tuberculosis is also left, which also emphasizes the fact that Tuberculosis is due to a germ, that it spreads by infection, and that the sputum or spit of consumptive persons contains these germs, and is the chief means by which

infection is spread, and in addition to this information, disinfectants are supplied when necessary.

The information supplied in the leaflet is educational in character, and the chief points embodied are that not only for those affected, but for those who would avoid the disease; fresh air, good food, cleanliness, temperate and regular living, suitable exercise, and rest are the surest antidotes.

If the public once fully realise the infectivity of this disease, and apply to its management those principles of prevention which experience and experiment have shown to be beneficial, then the danger of its spread from the sick to the healthy will be reduced very materially. Its duration is usually so long that sanatorium treatment can never be carried out in the same degree as the isolation of the infectious sick in fever hospitals is carried out, but I think in the case of the very poor, whose dwellings can never be made suitable for treatment, or for the carrying out of efficient measures of prevention, some portion of Workhouse Infirmaries, or parts of existing Infectious Hospitals might be utilised.

A Circular and Regulations as to Tuberculosis, bearing date December 18th, 1908, has been issued by the Local Government Board, the provisions of which come into force on January 1st, 1909. These regulations provide for the notification to Medical Officers of Health of Sanitary Authorities of cases of Tuberculosis occurring amongst the inmates of Poor Law Institutions, or amongst persons under the care of District Medical Officers, and for the taking of certain measures of prevention in such cases. Four separate persons are charged with duties of notification, viz.:—The Medical Officer of a Poor Law Institution, in case of inmates; District Medical Officers in the case of “poor persons,” on whom they are in attendance; Superintending Officers of Poor Law Institutions in the case of persons leaving the Institution, giving their intended address, and Relieving Officers in cases of change of address.

Under Article IX. of the Regulations, a Council on the advice of their Medical Officer of Health, in the case of a poor person in relation to whom a notification in pursuance of these Regulations has been posted to the Medical Officer of Health, may, for the purpose of preventing the spread of infection from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

- (1) Take all such measures, or do all such things as are authorised, in any case of infectious disease, by any enactment relating to public health, and as have reference to the destruction and disinfection of infected articles, or the cleansing or disinfecting of premises.

- (2) Take all such measures, or do all such things as are appropriate and necessary for the safe disposal or destruction of infectious material, produced and discharged, as a result of Pulmonary Tuberculosis; and otherwise for the prevention of the spread of infection from any such material.
- (3) Afford or supply all such assistance, facilities, or articles as, within such reasonable limits as the circumstances of the case require and allow, will obviate, or remove, or diminish the risk of infection arising from the conditions affecting the use or occupation of any room, when used or occupied by the poor person as a sleeping apartment; and
- (4) Furnish, for the use of the poor person, on loan, or otherwise, any appliance, apparatus, or utensil which will be of assistance for the purpose of any precaution against the spread of infection.

The accompanying Circular states that the Board proposes to issue a memorandum setting out the appropriate action that can be taken under these powers.

HEART DISEASES.—From this cause 100 deaths were registered, as compared with 68 during the previous year. This increase is more apparent than real, because in it I have included all cases of Cerebral Hæmorrhage, which are primarily due to disease of Blood Vessels.

CANCER, and other forms of Malignant Disease, caused 36 deaths, as compared with 29 during 1907.

ALCOHOLISM.—From this cause there were 8 deaths, a small number considering the real extent of the injury to health caused by excessive drinking.

Diseases of the Nervous System caused 41 deaths, as compared with 55 during 1907.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—In Table III. appended to this Report will be found a return of the number of cases of Infectious Disease, reported under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act during 1908, in each division of the Borough. The total number of cases notified was 197. During the past seven years the yearly totals have been as follows :—

1902	.....	276
1903	.....	235
1904	.....	160
1905	.....	117
1906	.....	302
1907	.....	208
1908	.....	197

The following Table shows the mortality from diseases of this class, and from Enteritis during 1907 and 1908 :—

	1907.		1908.		Increase or Decrease.
Scarlet Fever.....	4	...	0	...	— 4
Measles	19	...	9	...	— 10
Whooping Cough.....	12	...	11	...	— 1
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	4	...	7	...	+ 3
Enteric Fever	14	...	8	...	— 6
Diarrhœa	2	...	11	...	+ 9
Enteritis.....	9	...	11	...	+ 2

In addition to the diseases scheduled in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act there are other non-notifiable diseases respecting which information is desirable. This is obtained by an arrangement with the Education Department, and the head teacher at each school is requested to forward once a week the names and addresses of such scholars as are absent on account of Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox, or Mumps. Children from infected households are prohibited from attending school until risk of infection is at an end, and I am sure that by this means a very useful check is put on the spread of these diseases, and there is less likelihood of having to resort to school closure.

In order to prevent the spread of infection by books obtained from the Free Library, the librarian is informed every week of the names and addresses of such persons as are notified to be suffering from infectious disease, and no books are issued to such houses until they are declared free from infection. Books already in use are disinfected before their return to the library.

MEASLES.—From this disease there were nine deaths, all of which occurred during the early months of the year, since when it has been practically non-existent in the Borough. Measles is one of the most difficult diseases to cope with, because it is highly infectious before the onset of the rash, and therefore has often obtained a considerable prevalence before preventive measures can be applied. The majority of people are prone to regard it as a disease of trivial character, which every child is bound to have, instead of which it is one of the most serious and fatal diseases which attack children. The carelessness which is so often displayed leads to the onset of serious complications, such as Bronchitis and Pneumonia, leading to fatal results.

WHOOPING COUGH, which caused 11 deaths, is also a highly infectious disease, and the remarks made respecting Measles are equally applicable to Whooping Cough. Besides the deaths

directly attributed to it, many others are the result of it, and are in a large proportion of cases due to carelessness and mismanagement in its treatment.

SCARLET FEVER.—This disease has not prevailed extensively, and until the last quarter of the year its incidence was extremely slight, and no deaths were registered. The total number of cases notified was 81, of which 56 were removed to St. William's Hospital for treatment. 54 of these cases were in Luton Ward, 11 in St. Mary's, 12 in St. John's, and 4 in the Medway Workhouse. The following Table gives details of Scarlet Fever in Chatham during the past ten years :—

Year.	Population.	Total No. of Cases. Notified.	No. under 5 Years.	Deaths Regist'rd	Treated in Hosp.	Attack rate per 1,000 of Population.	Mortality per 1,000.	Per centage removed to Hospital.
1899	35972	182	27	9	117	5·	·02	64
1900	36425	101	28	4	72	2·8	·01	71
1901	37057	41	10	—	23	1·1	—	56
1902	37732	74	31	1	50	1·9	·002	67
1903	38407	115	55	3	84	2·9	·008	73
1904	39179	61	21	1	47	1·5	·003	77
1905	40938	42	8	—	32	1·02	—	71
1906	41594	200	54	1	149	4·8	·002	75
1907	42134	81	33	4	67	1·9	·009	83
1908	42971	81	29	—	56	1·8	—	69

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—Of this disease 33 cases were notified, and 7 deaths occurred. 24 cases were removed to St. William's Hospital. The number of cases in separate localities was as follows :—

St. Mary's Ward	2
Luton ,,	20
St. John's ,,	12

The numbers affected at different ages were :—

1 to 5 years	12
5 to 15 ,,	18
15 to 25 ,,	1
25 to 65 ,,	3

The following Table shows the number of cases and deaths from Diphtheria during the past ten years.

Year.		Cases Notified.		Deaths.
1899	.....	97	.....	8
1900	.....	55	.....	8
1901	.....	80	.....	9
1902	.....	35	.....	7
1903	.....	23	.....	3
1904	.....	26	.....	2
1905	.....	25	.....	2
1906	.....	29	.....	3
1907	.....	30	.....	4
1908	.....	34	.....	7

Arrangements are now in force by which Bacteriological diagnosis can be secured in cases of doubt, and in the event of epidemic prevalence an extension of this process might with advantage be carried out, with the result of bringing to notice cases where the Diphtheria bacillus still lingers in nasal and throat discharges, without definite symptoms being present, but which are still capable of producing virulent infection.

ENTERIC FEVER.—The number of cases notified was 51, of which 46 were removed to Hospital, and 8 deaths occurred. Number of households affected 43. Four of the cases admitted to Hospital proved to be errors in diagnosis, and I may at this juncture refer to the circular which has recently been issued on the advice of the Medical Officer to St. Williams' Hospital, pointing out that both in the Boroughs of Rochester and Chatham, facilities for the confirmation of diagnosis by Bacteriological tests are provided free of charge, and asking local Practitioners to avail themselves of these facilities to the utmost extent. I am glad to say that in many instances during the year this has been done. Cases of Enteric Fever and Diphtheria frequently occur in which the symptoms and appearances are far from typical, and in which no Medical man can give a certain opinion, and when we recollect not only the importance to the patient, but the saving to the ratepayers which can be effected by taking every precaution to ensure that none but *bona fide* cases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital, then I am sure there can be no difference of opinion, and I have personally very little doubt that the proposal will receive the hearty support and co-operation of all Medical men. The number of cases of enteric fever submitted to Bacteriological examination was 6, a negative result being found in 4 of them. Without this test these cases would have been sent to the Fever Hospital, and thus the provision of these facilities may be considered a measure of real economical value.

The majority of the cases notified were during the second half of the year, although no month was absolutely free. During the first half of the year there were 15 cases, and 36 during the second half.

The causation of Enteric Fever is now universally admitted to be connected with the contamination of articles of food or drink by the specific germ, which thus finds its way into the alimentary canal, and it is often extremely difficult or impossible to trace the exact mode of infection in every case, but in a large number of the cases reported there is very little doubt that the eating of contaminated shell fish was the cause. In 18 cases the evidence was conclusive, and in several others there were grounds for suspicion. The kinds of shell fish consumed were chiefly Cockles, and in a few cases Clams and Oysters, and it is worthy of note that many cases in the neighbouring Boroughs of Rochester and Gillingham were also attributed to like causes. These shell fish are found in large quantities in the Medway, and are gathered from the mud at low water, and are then hawked about the district. They may be said to be eaten in an uncooked state, and the Cockles are only subjected to heat sufficient to open them, and are hardly ever boiled. The River Medway between Rochester and Sheerness is considerably polluted with fæcal matter, and there can be no doubt that the people who consume Cockles, etc. from such a source are subjecting themselves to very grave risks.

The measures adopted were the issuing of notices warning the public against the consumption of contaminated shell fish, followed later by the publication of a list of cases known to have contracted Enteric Fever after the eating of shell fish. There is no doubt that a very real danger exists in eating shell fish coming from a contaminated source, and it is extraordinary that neither County nor Local Authorities have powers to deal with the pollution of tidal rivers.

Many of the cases were of a very severe type.

The vast increase in our knowledge of bacteria has opened up avenues of research hardly dreamt of a few years ago, and in the light of recent evidence the charitable views which have hitherto prevailed with respect to the common house fly, regarded at the worst as a harmless nuisance, are likely to be greatly modified. The fly feeds upon filth and upon food stuffs indiscriminately, its eggs are laid in filth, its presence in large numbers is a sign of the presence of organic matter, and proof is not wanting that its insanitary habits make it a frequent carrier of infection into food. It takes about 9 days to hatch out a full grown fly, and during that

period it passes through four stages.—(1) the egg, very small, not easily seen, and buried in filth ; (2) the maggot stage ; (3) the resting stage ; (4) the full grown fly. Each fly lays about 120 eggs, and as they multiply with marvellous rapidity, each fly is capable in a few weeks of producing millions of other flies. Many diseases are spread by the agency of flies, and a long list of infective and and suppurative affections, the authenticity of which no one acquainted with the subject would question, was recently published in the columns of the “*Lancet*.” This list included all the common infectious diseases, besides Diarrhœa, Enteric Fever and Tuberculosis, in fact all bacterial and infectious diseases. The total abolition of the house fly is not practicable, and probably like many other things it fills a useful place in nature’s economy, but it may be taken as certain that the presence of swarms of flies means the presence of filth, and the abolition of filth is one of the prime duties of every Sanitary Authority. The nuisance of foul, open privies, accumulations of manure and other refuse in the vicinity of dwellings, are really something more than nuisances—they are potential breeding grounds of disease, and every effort of a Sanitary Authority to preserve strict and scrupulous cleanliness in every part of their district is bound to meet with public support, because even if there is additional outlay, it is amply repaid by the ensuing benefit to public health.

The removal of 46 cases out of 51 to Hospital was very satisfactory, and in addition all privy pits were cleaned out and disinfected with Perchloride of Mercury, whilst in those cases treated at home a liberal supply of disinfectant was given for the purpose of mixing with excreta.

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.—These diseases caused 22 deaths, 17 of which were amongst infants under 1 year of age, and although registered under different names, for practical purposes they are one and the same disease, prevailing as they do together and subject to the same causes. Improper Feeding, Dirt, and a High Temperature are the conditions most suitable for their prevalence, and the remarks I have made under the head of Infantile Mortality, and in connection with Enteric Fever respecting the spread of infection by flies are peculiarly applicable to this disease. When discussing Diarrhœal Mortality I have over and over again referred to the question of Infant Feeding, because wrong feeding is the most fertile causes of all, and improvement in this direction must be largely a matter of education. The neglect and incapacity of many poor mothers is more often the result of ignorance than of wilful neglect, and I have a strong belief that in the long run education in matters of hygiene, combined with

Municipal effort to maintain a good sanitary condition of houses, will result in a diminution of the mortality from this class of disease.

Of ERYSIPELAS there were 30 notifications and no deaths.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—The provision for isolation of infectious disease in this district is of very satisfactory character, and the accommodation is under ordinary circumstances amply adequate for the demands placed upon it. Its advantages are greatly appreciated by the public, and there is seldom any difficulty in inducing parents to avail themselves of these advantages.

DISINFECTION.—This is one of the most important procedures in connection with the prevention of infectious disease, and efficient disinfection secures the destruction of disease producing matter. Many people confound disinfection and deodorization, and lull themselves into a sense of false security by the limited use of substances which do little beyond masking unpleasant odours. The provision for Disinfection in this Borough is very satisfactory. For the purpose of fumigating rooms after the removal of infectious cases, the vapour of Fomice Aldehyde, or Sulphurous Acid Gas is used, and all infected clothing and bedding is removed in a suitable van to the Disinfecting Station, and there subjected to the action of super-heated steam in Thresh's Steam Disinfecting Apparatus. The Borough also possesses its own Ambulance, the interior of which is cleansed and disinfected after the removal of each case. The men occupied in the work of removal and disinfection are provided with suitable overalls for the purpose, and in cases where the entire disinfection of a house is necessary, a shelter is provided for the temporarily homeless family. In some cases it is found desirable to destroy infected articles, and in such instances compensation is paid as provided by the Public Health Act. The report of the Inspector of Nuisances, which is appended, gives details respecting the number of houses and articles disinfected.

Besides the facilities for obtaining Bacteriological tests in the diagnosis of Enteric Fever and Diphtheria, which I have already alluded to, I would again draw the attention of the Medical profession to the fact that Diphtheria Antitoxin is kept in stock at the Town Hall, and can be supplied on request at any time. Experience has proved the very great value of this method of treatment, and there is no doubt that its early and prompt administration greatly increases the chance of recovery.

HOUSING.—The question of house accommodation is in one form or another constantly engaging the attention of Sanitary Authorities. The necessity of suitable dwellings is universally admitted, and so many and various are the enactments designed to secure adequacy and fitness for habitation, that to the uninitiated it seems a matter for surprise that there should ever be houses unfit for habitation.

The number of new houses erected during 1908 has not been large, but I do not think the proportion of uninhabited houses is so great as in the two preceding years. The majority of dwellings are houses suitable for the needs of the working classes, and as regards those erected of late years, they have been built in conformity with the bye-laws, which require, amongst other things, a sufficiency of open space for every house. It is a matter for regret that there still remains a considerable amount of old and more or less dilapidated property in Chatham, and of late years I have constantly made representations under Sec. 30, Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, with the result that a certain amount of cleansing and patching is applied, making them fit for habitation, but in many instances this process is like attempts to make old people young again, and a time will come when houses of this sort are past repair, and must be pulled down in order to make room for more suitable dwellings. The great evil of insanitary property lies in its effect on the physical and moral conditions of life, and it is impossible for either education, temperance, or religion to have much influence on people who are steeped in the physical and moral degeneration which invariably accompanies life in the dirty and over-crowded dens which exist in most towns. The urgent necessity of providing suitable dwelling accommodation for the working classes cannot be gainsaid, and the owner of insanitary and dilapidated property, who lets it at a rental bringing him in a high rate of interest on his capital is rightly blamed if he allows his property to become so structurally defective that it is not reasonably fit for human habitation. But at times there seems to be some excuse for the owner, because in many instances the horribly dirty condition of the interior is due to the wilful neglect of the tenants. In the course of a long experience, during which I have visited hundreds of houses of this character. I cannot recall a single instance in which I have found the woman in charge doing any work, or making any attempt to cope with the hopeless muddle and mess which surrounds her, and it is almost without exception the same dwellings, with the same type of tenant, which are found from time to time to be in an insanitary condition, and my conviction becomes stronger and stronger that the housing problem will never be satisfactorily settled until attempts at reform are combined with drastic punishment of the neglectful tenant.

Every owner should be compelled to keep his property in tenantable condition, and the repair of rotten woodwork, broken ceilings, crumbling lath and plaster, forming breeding grounds for vermin, leaking roofs, defective rain spouts, tumble down privies, unpaved yards and unsuitable wash-houses are clearly his duty, but these once provided, if the tenant had method, order, industrious habits, less indulgence in alcohol, and above all, cleanliness, then sanitary officials would find less discouragement in their work, and the general health of the community would be better.

The number of houses reported during 1908 under Section 30, Housing of the Working Classes Act was 17, and in every case a specification of the work required to put them in a habitable condition was supplied. Notices under Sections 21 and 27, Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, relating to the fouling of Sanitary Conveniences, and to the regular cleansing of courts and passages leading to the backs of buildings in separate occupations have been issued during the year, and I would recommend their continuance.

The Public Health Amendment Act of 1907 has been adopted by your Council, and gives extensive powers in respect of various Sanitary matters, most of which I alluded to in my Report for 1907.

BYE-LAWS.—This important subject was for a long time under consideration by a Special Committee, and during 1908 the revised Bye-Laws have been confirmed by the Local Government Board, and will prove of great value in the Sanitary Administration of the Borough. These specially revised Bye-Laws deal with :—

- (1) New Streets and Buildings.
- (2) The Drainage of existing Buildings.
- (3) The cleansing of Footways and Pavements, the removal of House Refuse, the cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.
- (4) Nuisances.
- (5) The removal of offensive matter through the Streets.
- (6) The duties of the Occupier in respect of house refuse.
- (7) Slaughter-houses.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Water supply of the Borough is from deep borings in the chalk, supplemented by a boring into the upper greensand ; these being situated in the Luton Valley, from whence the water is pumped into storage reservoirs and thence delivered to consumers. Two of these reservoirs are situated near the Rainham Road, and one on the Maidstone Road. Their joint

storage capacity is about 9,000,000 gallons. . The supply is constant and abundant, it is a very wholesome drinking water, and analysis shows it to be free from contamination. The Water Company is fully conscious of its responsibility, and pollution of the source of supply is hardly possible. Periodical Analyses are, I believe, made regularly, although not published. I have for many years been an advocate for softening the water, and am of opinion that this process would not impair its value as a beverage, and would certainly be a boon in other respects, but here the matter remains, and as there are no means of compelling the Company to soften the water. I am afraid the public will have to put up with the one great evil of chalk water, viz. : hardness.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE —The District is still without Main Drainage, and sewage is stored in Cesspools until they are full enough to require emptying.

I can only express the oft reiterated opinion that the cesspool system is an undesirable and an insanitary one, and that the carrying away of sewage from the vicinity of dwellings, instead of storing it in holes dug in yards or gardens would be infinitely preferable. To carry out a scheme of Main Drainage will be a very costly business, and for various reasons such a scheme would press very seriously indeed on the pockets of the already overburdened ratepayer, although I think that ultimately this would be counterbalanced by the increased development of the locality which would probably take place, if to the many existing advantages were added that of Main Drainage. Such a scheme should be carried out jointly with the City of Rochester, because both Boroughs must gain by the adoption of a common method of Sewage disposal. The River Medway is considerably polluted with Crude Sewage, and the worst offenders are the Government Departments.

CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING.—The collection and disposal of House Refuse is carried out on opposite lines to that of Sewage disposal, and the method in use is of a very satisfactory character and is carried out with very little friction. Its aim is to secure frequent and regular removal, and the system carried out by the Surveyor's Department admirably fulfils these requirements. To make the system perfect, a complete service of properly covered vans is required, and also the provision by householders of suitable covered receptacles, instead of the wonderful variety of boxes, baskets and tins, now in use. A further improvement would be the destruction by heat of all refuse of this character, and I would suggest the appointment of a Committee to inquire and report with respect to the provision of a Refuse Destructor.

Fish Offal is removed daily in tins which are placed in a special closed van, and no nuisance results.

The various proceedings taken for the abatement of nuisances will be found in the Inspector's Report.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—Number on register 17. Most of the registered Slaughter Houses are situated in close proximity to the High Street, and the fact that no complaints have arisen in connection with them is proof that they are well conducted and clean. Periodical inspections are made, and surprise visits are also paid. There has been no difficulty in securing observance of regulations, and generally speaking, I am able to report favourably on their condition. The licensing of all new Slaughter Houses is now subject to annual renewal, and depends on proper observance of regulations by the occupier.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—These are 15 in number, and are all regularly inspected, and are as a rule well kept and clean, and in this respect compare favourably with the condition of many working class dwellings. The average charge per bed is 4d. per night, but in some cases where there is slightly better accommodation 6d. is charged. No cases of infectious disease have occurred in registered Common Lodging Houses during 1908. The Public Health Amendment Act of 1907 gives to Local Authorities greatly improved powers of control over these places.

Of late years there has been an increasing tendency to sub-let parts of houses, and there are now quite a large number where one or two rooms are sub-let to separate families, and in some instances this practice has resulted in indecent occupation of rooms, and want of cubic space bringing about overcrowding. In these sublet houses the owner or tenant of the building lets each room as a separate furnished apartment, the furnishing being of a very economical character, and as a rule consisting of a small deal table, two or three wooden chairs, and a cheap iron bedstead with the commonest and dirtiest of bedclothes. For these rooms rentals varying from 2/6 to 4/- weekly are charged, or 8d. if occupied for one night.

The necessity of possessing Bye-Laws dealing with houses let in lodgings as distinguished from Common Lodging Houses has become obvious, and suitable Bye-Laws are now in process of formation, which will I trust shortly receive the approval of the Local Government Board, and will have one great advantage in securing a definition of over-crowding by fixing a minimum cubic space for each person.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

No. of registered Cowkeepers.....	15
No. of registered Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk.....	43

The regulations issued by the Local Government Board in connection with the above are for prescribing and regulating the lighting, ventilation, cleansing, drainage, and water supply of Cow Sheds and Dairies, and for securing the cleanliness of Milk Stores, Milk Shops, and Milk Vessels used for containing milk for sale by persons following the trade of Cowkeepers and Dairymen, and for prescribing precautions to be taken by purveyors of milk, and persons selling milk by retail against infection or contamination.

Owing to alterations and improvements which have been carried out in several sheds during the year, the structural condition of the Cowsheds in the Borough is better than it ever has been, and the only persons who seem insensible to reform are those in charge of Cowsheds. There is no person so dense as the one who does not desire to learn, and apparently until some more drastic measures of control are possible, there will be but very little improvement in the dirty habits of some Cowkeepers and their employees. However well constructed a Cowshed may be cleanliness is more important still, and the presence of large quantities of dried dung on the hinder quarters and tail of a cow means that much of this filth finds its way into the pail during the process of milking, and the amount of dirt which can be found in a pint of milk when it is slowly strained through a very fine mesh would surprise and sicken most householders. Besides the milk supplied by cowkeepers in the district, a large amount is brought in by train, and the same control cannot be exercised as in the case of milk derived from local services. It is generally admitted that alteration in respect to the laws governing milk supplies are required. The Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milkshops Order is a dead letter in many Rural Districts, and the provision of regulations should be compulsory instead of optional as at present. A further improvement would be a system of annual licensing, the license not to be granted except in conformity with certain requirements.

I may here refer to the interim Report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, which has just been issued, and which confirms by practical observations the conclusions arrived at in the previous Reports of May, 1904, and February, 1907. The terms of reference of this Commission were :—

- (1) Whether the disease in animals and in man is one and the same.

- (2) Whether animals and man can be reciprocally affected by it.
- (3) Under what conditions, if at all, the transmission of the disease from animals to man takes place, and what are the circumstances favourable or unfavourable to such transmission.

The previous Reports conclusively proved the 1st and 2nd terms, viz. : that tuberculosis in animals and man is one and the same disease, and that animals and man can be reciprocally infected with it. The last Report dealing with the modes of transmission is equally conclusive and convincing, as the following extract from it shows :—

“Tuberculosis involving the udder is comparatively common in cows, and in such cases their milk always contains tubercle bacilli, and is therefore dangerous for human beings consuming it. It was, however, undecided what is the danger, if any, attaching to the milk of tuberculous cows in which the udder presents no evidence of disease.”

It has further been found that the fæces of animals afflicted with tubercle contained living and virulent tubercle bacilli, and by this fact alone the case for ordinary cleanliness is enormously strengthened.

Arising out of this Report will be a demand for a purer milk supply, to which Parliament must before long give legislative effect.

In this Borough your Veterinary Inspector reports monthly on the condition of all milch cows, with respect to their health and cleanliness, and it has been decided in future to make public, information of this kind. The cowsheds and milkshops are also the subject of frequent and regular inspection.

The Sale of Milk in many small general shops is carried out under very unsatisfactory conditions, and in March last the following regulation was issued :—

“Every purveyor of milk, or persons selling milk by retail shall cause every vessel containing milk for sale to be kept properly covered, or the milk in such vessel to be otherwise sufficiently protected from contamination by dust or flies, or other deleterious matter.”

A recent inspection of shops of this character only emphasises the extreme undesirability of allowing milk to be sold except under stringent regulation as to storage and protection. The atmosphere is generally unfit, dust, dirt, flies, and unpleasant

odours are prevalent, in one recent instance paraffin oil and milk were found standing side by side. The coverings used are generally insufficient in character, and I would suggest a re-registration under Article 6, Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milkshops Order.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.—The object of this Act is to secure the better training of Midwives and to regulate their practice, and up to the present the administration of the Act has been carried out in this Borough under my supervision, but the County Council have now decided to remove these powers from Local Authorities, and after April 1st, 1909, the entire control of Midwives and their practice will be carried out by officials specially appointed by the County Council.

The specific duties which have been carried out are :—

(1) To exercise general supervision over all Midwives practising within their area.

(2) To investigate charges of malpractice, negligence or misconduct on the part of any Midwife practising within their area, and if a *prima facie* case be established to report the same to the Central Midwives Board.

(3) To suspend any Midwife from practice in accordance with the rules under the Act, if such suspension appears necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

(4) To report at once the name of any Midwife practising in their area, convicted of an offence.

(5) During the month of January in each year to supply the Secretary of the Central Midwives Board with the names and addresses of all Midwives practising within their area, and to keep a current copy of the roll of Midwives, accessible at all reasonable times for public inspection.

(6) To report deaths and other changes of address of any Midwives.

(7) To give due notice of the effect of this Act, so far as practicable, to persons at present using the title of Midwives.

The number of Midwives on the Register during 1908 was 12. Four of these are trained and certificated. The remainder are registered in view of having been in *bona fide* practice prior to July 1901.

One case of Puerperal Fever was reported during the year, but this did not occur in the practice of a Midwife.

The following notices were received from Midwives during the year —

Record of sending for Medical help.....	6
Still Births	7

SCHOOLS.—The general sanitary condition of the Schools throughout the Borough is a matter requiring the attention of your health department, and recent visits have on the whole impressed me favourably with respect to the lighting, ventilation and cleanliness of the Elementary Schools. There are 13 separate blocks of buildings, the newer schools all having a 10 square feet basis, and the older ones, with two exceptions, are of 8 square feet. The chief defects in the older buildings are in respect of cloak room accommodation, and of lavatory basins. The Sanitary Conveniences are satisfactory and there is in every case an ample supply of water. There has been no occasion to recommend School Closure on account of infectious disease, and the exclusion of scholars from infected houses has been all that was required.

The Children's Bill, passed in the last session of Parliament, contains two Clauses of importance to Sanitary Authorities, viz. : Sections 122 and 123, which are on similar lines to some of the Nuisance Clauses in the Public Health Act, and which give Local Authorities compulsory powers in respect to the cleansing of verminous children.

UNSOUND FOOD.—The following seizures were made during the year :—

- 1 Carcase of Beef.
- 4 Trunks of Fish.
- A large quantity of unsound Fruit.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.—Under Section 132 of the above Act it is the duty of the Medical Officer of Health of every District Council to report specifically on the Administration of this Act in Workshops and Workplaces, and to include his observations thereon in his Annual Report. A Table is issued by the Home Office, containing such particulars as lend themselves to statistical treatment, has been filled in, and is appended to this report.

The points to be reported on are concerned with the Sanitary Administration of Workshops and Workplaces, so far as they are under the control of the District Council. They relate to—

1. Sanitary conditions, including—

(a) Cleanliness.

(b) Air Space.

(c) Ventilation.

(d) Drainage of floors on which wet processes are carried on.

(e) Provision of suitable and sufficient Sanitary Conveniences.

2. Special Sanitary Provisions for Bakehouses.

3. The prevention of home work being carried on in dwellings which are dangerous to the health of the workers through overcrowding, want of ventilation, or other Sanitary defects, or in dwellings in which notifiable infectious disease exists.

4. The keeping of lists of outworkers in certain branches of industry, which are furnished by employers, and the transmission of the name and place of any such outworker, who does not reside in the district, to the Council of the district in which he resides.

5. The keeping of a Register of Workshops.

The sub-joined particulars are supplemental to those recorded in the Home Office Table.

The total number of Workshops registered in the district is 418, including :

Tenement Workshops.....	none
Domestic Workshops	54
Retail Bakehouses	28
Laundries (Workshop)	6
Other Workshops	330

In addition to the Workshop Laundries there are three Factory Laundries.

There are 32 Non-textile Factories on the Register, of Workshops employing men only 178, and of Workplaces 64.

The WORKSHOPS comprise the following trades :—

Bootmakers 28, Brass Finishers and Pewterers 2, Blind Makers 2, Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights 7, Cycle Works 5, Cabinet Makers 9, Coopers 1, Polishers 6, Picture Frame Makers 12, Plumbers 7, Painters 13, Clay Pipe Makers 1, Saddlers 10, Modellers 1, Tailors 25, Sweet Makers 4, Undertakers 2, Ornamental Masons 2, Tin Smiths 5, Hoopmakers 2, Smiths 6, Upholsterers 6, Carpenters and Joiners 22.

NON-TEXTILE FACTORIES :—Bakehouses 2, Bookbinders 1, Engineering 1, Joinery 5, Electrical Works 1, Mineral Water Works 5, Printing 7, Tobacco 1, Sausage Making 1, Flour 2, Laundries 3, Soap Compounds 1, Bootmakers 2.

WORKPLACES :—Bottling 5, Gatemaking 4, Wharves 8, Haircutting 35, Stables 12.

Notices issued :—

FACTORIES : Unsuitable Sanitary Accommodation 3

WORKSHOPS : Unsuitable Sanitary Accommodation 2

Want of Cleanliness 9

Drainage of Floors 2

OUTWORKERS.—The number of Outworkers registered during the year was 551, there being 281 during the first half and 270 during the second.

The number of employers sending lists which have to be transmitted during February and August was 16.

The number of Outworkers residing out of the district was 97, whose names were notified to the respective Authorities of the districts in which they reside.

From other Authorities 10 lists were received containing the names of 15 Outworkers residing in Chatham, and doing work for firms outside the district.

During the first half of the year 249 separate premises were visited, and 232 during the second half. 10 houses were re-visited. 53 persons were found to have moved, or were not known.

The following Notices were issued :—

Want of Cleanliness 5

For inside repairs 4

Prohibition of work on account

of Infectious Disease 1

The following return shows the various Trades in which women are employed :—

	Women.		Young Persons.
Shirtmaking	28	.....	2
Millinery	39	.....	61
Dressmaking	221	.....	94
Laundry	68	.....	4
Bookbinding	14	.....	4
Rag Sorting.....	9	.....	0
Clothing	409	.....	94
	<hr/> 788		<hr/> 259

In the Act a young person is defined as one who is over 14 and under 18 years of age.

No house was found to be in such an unwholesome condition as to render it necessary to prohibit employment.

The special Sections of the Act dealing with the question of Sanitary Accommodation are inoperative here, and all offences are dealt with under Section 22, Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

It was decided during the year to empty all Cesspools at Factories and Workshops periodically instead of waiting until they were full.

BAKEHOUSES.—The number of Bakehouses on the Register is 40, of which 10 are underground, and 2 are Factories. There are 4 not in use, including 1 underground.

Bakehouses are the subject of special Sanitary Regulations, as set out in Sections 97 to 102 of the Factory and Workshop Act. Under these regulations Closets must not communicate directly with, nor must there be any drains opening into a Bakehouse, and the cistern supplying water to a Bakehouse must be separate and distinct from the w.c. cistern. The inside walls and ceilings of Bakehouses must be lime-washed or painted with oil and varnished, and the lime-washing and cleansing of paint must be done every 6 months. No sleeping place is permitted on the same floor as a Bakehouse unless constructed according to the requirements of this Act.

The general condition of the Bakehouses is very satisfactory, and as a rule they are well kept and clean.

For the last two or three years I have called your attention to the largely increasing work of the Sanitary Department, and pointed out the inadequacy of the staff employed. I am glad to say that this defect has been remedied by the appointment of an Assistant Sanitary Inspector, and it is now possible to carry out the work of the Department in a more thorough and efficient manner. A house to house inspection of the district has been instituted, the results of which are being registered, and will, when complete, form a very valuable record of the sanitary condition of the Borough. This duty is being carried out as opportunity serves in the intervals of routine work. Besides the various matters alluded to in the foregoing pages, a very large amount of work has been performed,

much of which has come before your Sanitary Committee, to whom my thanks are due for the courtesy and consideration they have invariably accorded to such suggestions and reports as I have had the honour to bring to their notice.

My thanks are also due to Mr. Coles Finch, for particulars of rainfall during the year.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. HOLROYDE, F.R.C.S.E., D.P.H.

Chatham,

February 20th, 1909.



Appended are Tables I., II., III., IV., and V., issued by the Local Government Board.

Home Office Table for returns under the Factory and Workshop Act.

Statistics of Rainfall.

Report of Inspector of Nuisances.



TABLE I. CHATHAM.—For Whole District.

YEAR.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.*	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Total Deaths at all Ages.	Total Death Rate.*	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in District.	Deaths of Resi- dents registered beyond District.	Deaths at all Ages. Nett.	Death Rate* at all Ages. Nett.
1898 ...	35499	1038	29.	176	168	698	19.7	185	53	66	711	20.05
1899 ...	35972	1062	29.5	193	180	731	20.3	173	38	45	738	20.04
1900 ...	36495	1065	29.02	168	165	702	19.4	188	50	63	715	19.5
1901 ...	37057	1022	27.9	157	154	648	17.4	149	45	37	638	17.2
1902 ...	37732	1066	28.2	174	163	676	17.9	163	53	51	674	17.8
1903 ...	38407	1112	28.9	143	129	583	15.	155	40	31	574	14.9
1904 ...	39179	1172	29.9	209	178	659	16.8	175	71	29	630	16.
1905 ...	40938	1134	27.7	143	126	615	14.4	77	63	27	578	14.1
1906 ...	41594	1107	26.7	153	138	593	14.2	143	58	25	560	13.4
1907 ..	42134	1100	26.1	136	124	591	14.	140	59	49	581	13.7
Averages for years 1898 to 1907.	38500	1087	27.5	165	154	649	16.4	154	53	43	639	16.4
1908 ...	42971	1038	24.2	132	127	578	13.4	136	62	42	558	12.9

*Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.
Medway Union Infirmary.	St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester. St. William's Fever Hospital, Rochester. Fort Pitt Military Hospital, Rochester. Royal Naval Hospital, Gillingham.

NOTES TO TABLE I.

The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-Resident" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, work-houses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 4444.298; total population at all ages 37,057; Number of inhabited houses 7,242; Average number of persons per house 4.8; at Census of 1901.

TABLE II.

CHATHAM URBAN DISTRICT.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	WHOLE DISTRICT.				ST. MARY'S WARD.				LUTON WARD.				ST. JOHN'S WARD.				WORKHOUSE.		MEL. HOS.
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	
1898 ...	35499	1038	698	176	10459		176	50	14074		210	72	10916		127	46	151	1	34
1899 ...	35972	1062	731	193	10310		197	63	14590		207	77	11072		154	48	133	6	40
1900 ...	36495	1065	702	168	10027		176	55	15107		199	57	11361		139	50	158	6	30
1901 ...	37057	1022	648	157	11706		176	63	15125		204	60	10226		152	31	82	3	24
1902 ...	37732	1066	676	174	10190	248	174	56	15310	531	209	62	12232	208	171	48	96	8	24
1903 ...	38407	1112	583	143	9555	246	137	42	17312	565	178	54	11572	301	144	41	86	6	27
1904 ...	39179	1172	659	209	9552	247	153	59	18000	615	214	88	11878	310	159	54	138	8	37
1905 ...	40938	1134	578	143	9784	228	148	43	18850	609	228	70	12304	297	125	27	70	3	7
1906 ...	41594	1107	560	152	9873	229	124	61	19452	603	221	70	12269	275	129	20	86	1	
1907 ...	42134	1100	591	136	9772	206	132	28	18819	612	215	61	13543	282	153	37	80	10	1
Averages of years 1898 to 1907	38500	1087	642	165	10122	234	159	52	16663	589	208	67	11737	278	145	40	108	5.	24
1908 ...	42971	1038	558	132	9860	197	122	30	20331	590	241	62	12780	251	121	37	74	3	

NOTES TO TABLE II.

(a) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district: and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table need not be filled up.

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")

(c) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(d) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.: thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3 and 12, respectively, of Table I.: the gross total of the sub-columns *c* should agree with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

TABLE III.

CHATHAM URBAN DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1908.

Notifiable Diseases	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.				No. of Cases re-moved to Hospital.				Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 & upwards.	St. Mary's WARD.	Luton WARD.	St. John's WARD.	MEDWAY WORKHOUSE.	St. Mary's WARD.	Luton WARD.	St. John's WARD.	MEDWAY WORKHOUSE.	
Small Pox ... ..	...														
Cholera ... ..	...														
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	34		12	18	1	3		2	20	12		1	17	6		24
Erysipelas	30	1	1	2	3	18	5	5	11	10	4					
Scarlet Fever	81		29	48	3	1		11	54	12	4	6	38	8	4	56
Typhus Fever ... ..	...														
Enteric Fever	51		2	11	14	24		21	15	10	5	19	12	8	7	46
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...														
Continued Fever ... ..	...														
Puerperal Fever	1					1		1								
Plague ... ..	...														
Totals	197	1	44	79	21	47	5	40	100 (w)	44	13	26	67 (w)	22	11	126

NOTES TO TABLE III.

The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, are usually sent. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district. The name of the authority by whom the hospital is provided should also be given. Mark (W) the locality in which a workhouse is situated.

* This space may be used for record of other disease the notification (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

† These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

* ** Column 8 should be filled up with the Totals of cases removed to Hospital, whether the District is divided into separate localities or consists of only one area.

Isolation Hospital.—Joint Hospital situated in Rochester.

TABLE IV.

CHATHAM DISTRICT.*Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1908.*

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at Subjoined Ages.							Deaths in Localities at all Ages.					Total Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 65 years.	65 and up-wards.	St. Mary's Ward.	Luton Ward.	St. John's Ward.	Medway Workhouse.	Marine Infirmary.	
Measles	9		8	1				1	4	2	2		3
Whooping Cough	11	5	1	1				2	5	4			
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	7		6	1					4	3			
Croup	1		1					1					
Fever, Enteric...	8				3	5		2	1	4	1		1
Epidemic influenza	6					3	3	3	3				
Diarrhoea... ..	11	9	1				1	2	7	2			
Enteritis	11	8	2		1			4	2	5			
Puerperal Fever	1					1		1					
Other Septic Diseases ...													
Phthisis	51		2	2	5	40	2	9	16	12	14		20
Other Tubercular Diseases...	16	4	5	6		1		5	3	8			2
Cancer, Malignant Disease..	36			1		19	16	3	23	4	6		12
Bronchitis	34	11			1	7	15	5	15	11	3		6
Pneumonia	47	18	16			10	3	13	24	6	4		6
Pluerisy	1				1				1				
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1						1			1			
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of Liver ... }	8					7	1	5		3			1
Venereal Disease	7	3	1	1		2		3	2	2			3
Premature Birth	25	25						7	14	4			
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition ...	6	2			2	2		1	4	1			
Heart Diseases..	100	4	1	4	3	47	41	22	44	25	9		17
Accidents... ..	9	2	1	2	2	2		3	4	1	1		2
Suicides	7				1	4	2	1	5	1			1
Urinary System	17		1		2	7	7	2	7	5	3		3
Nervous System	41	16	7	3	1	7	7	8	21	6	6		10
All other Causes	87	25	6	1	3	14	38	19	32	11	25		49
All Causes ...	558	132	63	23	25	178	137	122	241	121	74		136

TABLE V.

CHATHAM DISTRICT,

Infantile Mortality during the Year, 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.			Under 1 Week.	1 to 2 Weeks.	2 to 3 Weeks.	3 to 4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1 to 2 Months.	2 to 3 Months.	3 to 4 Months.	4 to 5 Months.	5 to 6 Months.	6 to 7 Months.	7 to 8 Months.	8 to 9 Months.	9 to 10 Months.	10 to 11 Months.	11 to 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	{ Certified ...	19	7	7	4	37	15	15	11	8	5	4	7	8	5	7	3	125	
	{ Uncertified ...	2		1		3			2				1	1				7	
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox ...																		
	Chicken-pox ...																		
	Measles ...																		
	Scarlet Fever...																		
	Diphtheria : { Croup } { Whooping Cough }														3	1	1	5	
Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms							2	1	1	2	1	1				1	9	
	Enteritis (not Tuberculous)								1	2		1					2	6	
	Gastritis, Gastrointestinal																		
	Catarrh				1	1										1		2	
	Premature Birth	12	3	4		19	4	2										25	
Wasting Diseases.	Congenital Defects	6	1			7	1											8	
	Injury at Birth	2				2												2	
	Want of Breast-milk		1			1	1											2	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus						1	3	4		1		2	1	1			13	
	Tuberculous Meningitis									1					1	1	1	4	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Peritonitis : { Tabes Mesenterica }														1			1	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																		
	Syphilis ...						1			1			1					3	
	Rickets ...									1								1	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)									1								3	
Other Causes.	Convulsions ...		2	2		4	1	1	2	1			1	1				11	
	Bronchitis ...			1	1	2	3		2	1			1	1				11	
	Pneumonia ..			1		1	1	3	2		2	2	1	2	1	2	1	18	
	Suffocation, Overlaying)							1					1					2	
	Other Causes ...	1			2	3	1	2										6	
All Causes ...			21	7	8	4	40	15	15	13	8	5	4	8	9	5	7	3	132

The Whole District. Population, estimated to middle of 1908—42,971.
Births in the year :—Legitimate, 996 ; Illegitimate, 42.
Deaths in the year :—Legitimate Infants, 122 ; Illegitimate Infants, 10.
Deaths from all causes at all ages, 558.

NOTES TO TABLES IV. AND V.

- (a) In Table IV. all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be included with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15, to be included among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-Residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be excluded from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.
 - (b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.
 - (c) All deaths occurring in public institutions, situated within the district, whether of Residents or of Non-residents, are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.
 - (d) The total deaths in the several Localities in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same Localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
 - (e)* Under the heading "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhœa, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhœa, Choleraic diarrhœa, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.
- In addition, and as regards deaths of children under one year of age, under the heading "Diarrhœa" in column 3 of IV. are to be included all deaths classified as "Diarrhœal diseases" in Table V.
- Under the heading of "Enteritis" in Table IV. are to be included only deaths over one year of age registered as due to Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, Gastric catarrh, Gastritis, and Gastro-intestinal catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths under the specific term "Diarrhœa." Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- (f) Under headings "Cancer" and "Puerperal Fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms, thus:—Under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma, Malignant disease, Scirrhus, Epithelioma, Sarcoma, Villous tumor, and Papilloma of bladder, Rodent ulcer; under "Puerperal Fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sapræmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri, and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.
 - (g) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icteric, neonatorum, Navel hæmorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus
 - (h) Under "Tuberculous Meningitis" are to be included in the deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.
 - (i) Under "Other Tuberculous Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculous of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.
 - (j) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners, and all Inquest cases, are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., IV. and V., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

BOROUGH OF CHATHAM.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecut'ns.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	54	3	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	487	13	
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	34	0	
Total	575	16	

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness... ..	9	9		
Want of ventilation... ..	0	0		
Overcrowding	0	0		
Want of drainage of floors... ..	2	2		
Other nuisances	0	0		
Sanitary Accommodation { insufficient	0	0		
unsuitable or defective	5	5		
not separate for sexes	0	0		
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse	0	0		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses	0	0		
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	0	0		
Total	16	16		

3.—Home Work.

Nature of Work.	Lists.	Outworkers.	Received from other Councils.	Forwarded to other Councils.			Instances.	Orders made.
Wearing Apparel :								
Lists received from Employers	16	551						
Addresses of Outworkers ...			15	97				
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or send- ing lists					2			
Inspection of Outworkers' Premises						506		
Outwork in Infected Premises							1	1
Total	16	551	15	97	2	506	1	1

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
Tenement Workshops	0
Domestic	54
Workshop Bakehouses	28
Laundries (Workshop)	6
Other Workshops	330
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	418

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act... ..	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act.	Notified by H.M. Inspector ... 5
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.. 5
Other	
Underground Bakehouses :—	
Certificates granted during the year	
In use at the end of the year	9

RAINFALL DURING 1908.

Taken at Luton Waterworks by Mr. W. Coles Finch.

Month.	Depth in Inches.
January	1·15
February.....	·92
March	2·03
April	2·44
May	1·48
June	1·22
July.....	2·57
August	3·24
September	1·66
October	1·44
November	·77
December	2·21
<hr/>	
Total	21·13 inches.

Sanitary and Health Department,
Town Hall,
Chatham.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1908, giving particulars of the various duties demanded by the Public Health Acts, &c., and performed in accordance with the directions of the Sanitary and Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health.

I venture to think that a perusal of the annexed statements will convince you that the past year shows an advancement of sanitation in the District, by the number of panned and trapped closets that have been provided in place of obnoxious privies, the relaying of defective drainage, and the work carried out under our system of house to house inspection, &c.

Notwithstanding the fact that a large number of Statutory Notices have been served, the notices referred to do not represent, in any degree, the amount of work required to abate nuisances.

Another cause for gratification is the small number of legal proceedings instituted as compared with the number of notices served, which, I respectfully submit, shows that the Council's demands upon the various owners have not been arbitrary or unreasonable.

It is a matter for congratulation that the infectious disease list shows a decrease on that of previous years.

I will now summarise my Report as follows :—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.—My duty relating to infectious diseases being confined solely to enquiries and reports to the Medical Officer of Health, it will be observed on reference to his Report, that the total number of notifications were—

Scarlet Fever.....	81
Typhoid Fever	51
Diphtheria	34
Erysipelas	30
Puerperal Fever	1

The number of cases moved to the Infectious Hospital totalled 122, and 181 loads of bedding were treated at the Steam Disinfector.

The bedding in each case of Phthisis was subsequently disinfected.

Great care has been exercised in carrying out a thorough disinfection of bedding, and articles of clothing, and no single claim has been made for damage done.

All infected premises have been visited, and full particulars entered into books, special enquiries being made which bear on the nature of the disease.

The usefulness of these enquiries has been demonstrated by the evidence obtained, and submitted to the Medical Officer of Health on the occasion of a minor outbreak of Typhoid Fever during the fall of the year, the cause of which was so quickly located.

Returns of Infectious Disease have been sent to the Educational Secretary and Librarian respectively every week. The number of children kept from attending school for such period as the Medical Officer deemed necessary being 328, and the number of books found on Infected premises belonging to the Public Library and subsequently disinfected before being returned numbered 20.

By this means a good deal has been done to check the spread of Infectious Disease amongst children.

CESSPOOL WORK.—Under this heading one could discuss that section of the various duties of the Department which is difficult to carry out to the satisfaction of all.

The number of cesspool applications received were 2361, of these 60 were found not required, and 65 were choked drains.

A special endeavour was made to keep this work in hand, so that complaints should be as few as possible.

The number of day loads of liquid sewage matter totalled 2611, the same being equal to 1,044,400 gallons of liquid sewage moved during the year.

1879 night loads of sewage were also removed.

An alteration in the collection of night soil was made at the beginning of the year, six loads of sewage per night being collected by two gangs of men instead of three. The cost of the actual labour for night soil collection in 1907 was £590 14s. 0d. In 1908 £497 15s. 10d., a saving of over £90. The cost of cartage was materially less owing to a lower contract figure per load.

Eighty four personal visits were made to the night men at work between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—During the year the whole of the Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops have been periodically visited.

The Registered Cowkeepers number 15, and the Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk 43.

Shops from which milk is sold consist mostly of General, Greengrocery, Pastry and Confectionery.

Details as to method of storing, quantity sold, &c., have been entered in the office books.

On the question of the distribution of milk it must be acknowledged that the supply from shops, other than proper dairies is not to be commended. The latter are constructed specially for the storage and sale of milk, and is stored in such a manner as to ensure this important article of food being kept from contamination.

Of the number of purveyors of milk keeping shops, 21 sell less than a gallon per day.

The above mentioned small quantities sold in milkshops raises the question of their necessity, whilst their existence is a danger. During the year various alterations and improvements have been carried out, large accumulations of manure in too close proximity to the cowsheds have been removed.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—Sixteen registered Slaughter Houses, and one licensed, exist in the district. Constant visits are made at all times of the year in addition to the half-yearly visits of the Medical Officer of Health.

Six owners have been warned for lack of cleanliness.

A wooden slaughter house has been demolished, and a brick structure built in its place, the same having been licensed for twelve months.

Complaint was made as to the removal of blood and manure from one slaughter house, and the nuisance was abated.

With this exception the whole of the offal has been removed without complaint, mainly owing to quickness of despatch by the local gut scraper in air-tight covered vessels.

Many comments have been made of late as to the method of slaughtering large animals, but the district can be congratulated on the dexterity of the slaughter men engaged at the slaughter houses.

BAKEHOUSES.—

Factory bakehouses	2
Retail bakehouses	28

The bakehouses have been kept in a satisfactory condition, only 3 notices for cleansing being necessary.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—

Registered Common Lodging Houses.....	15
---------------------------------------	----

The premises have been well conducted, only four notices have been required for lack of cleanliness.

Various evening visits have been made.

Only three of the registered houses have accommodation for women, and these have been inspected twice during the year, after midnight, when nothing was found to call for comment.

From returns received through the Schedules issued under Section 83 of the Public Health Act, 1875, I am able to give the following information :—

I. Average number of vagrants passing through the C.L.H. yearly :—

(1) Men	100 per night.
(2) Women	17 „

II. Average number of permanent lodgers :—

(1) Men	120 per night.
(2) Women	8 „

These figures show the number of persons passing through the Common Lodging Houses to be considerable, whilst in one alone the number of permanent lodgers averages fifty.

OBNOXIOUS TRADES.—Only one obnoxious trade exists in the district, that of gut scraper, and the premises being situated in the outlying part of the district, no complaints have been received.

MORTUARY.—During the year 17 bodies were received into the Mortuary, viz. :—

6 men.
5 women.
6 children.

Of these, four persons committed suicide, two men and one woman, by throwing themselves under the train, and one man by hanging himself.

Post mortem examinations were held on the bodies of one man and two women.

Eleven bodies were buried at the expense of the Poor Law Authority. The work necessary for the cleanliness of the Mortuary, the superintendence of confining the bodies, and the attendance at post mortem examinations have been carried out without any additional expense for labour.

FISH OFFAL COLLECTION.—The collection of fish offal has been carried out without complaint.

The average amount of fish offal collected during the year amounted to 150 tons. The average number of shops from which collected was nineteen, and the total receipts from fishmongers £31 18s. 6d. The total cost of collection to the ratepayers was £55 5s. 6d. for the year.

ICE CREAMS.—The manufacture of this article of food for general consumption has been carried on mostly at one establishment and distributed in the district in utensils creditable to the owner for cleanliness and prevention of contamination. From this establishment on an average 700 gallons of ice cream were sold in the streets of the district each week during the summer months. It is also creditable to the town that an English Ice Cream Manufacturer has been able to practically drive the foreign itinerant vendor of this commodity from our thoroughfares.

SEIZURES OF FOOD :—

- 1 Carcase of Beef.
- 4 Trunks of Fish.
- A Quantity of Oranges.
- 1 Fishing Smack Load of Sprats.

No prosecutions followed these seizures.

POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS:—

(1) Cowkeeper, for using shed as a cowshed, the same not being in conformity with the Regulations under the Cowsheds and Dairies Order.

(2) Cowkeeper ditto ditto.

(3) Owner of a house, for failing to abate a nuisance.

In each case a conviction was obtained.

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION.—A special house to house inspection was begun in June, and the following portion of the district was visited. The chief particulars notified were: the size of the house with regard to the number of rooms, number of men, women and children living in each house, general description of house inside as to cleanliness and repair, and the sanitary surroundings generally.

The number of houses visited was 721, including:—

Bush Street	56	Queen Street	26
Cross Street	52	Nelson Road	34
King Street	27	Avondale Terrace	6
Slicketts Hills	3	Solomon's Terrace	19
Eldon Street	43	„ Square	12
Hardstown	70	Church Street	36
Garden Row	19	George Street	28
Cage Lane.....	50	Fair Row	21
Brook (including Courts and Alleys)	185	Union Street	34

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.—There is no necessity for me to repeat the work done under this heading, as the same will be found set out in detail in the Medical Officer's Report.

DRAINAGE WORK.—The following lists shew the chief drainage work carried out in the district during the year.

It will be noticed that the number of new houses built shew a great decrease as compared with a few years ago, to wit, 1902, when over 400 were commenced.

Drainage Work tested and inspected in connection with plans submitted to the Council.

1. NEW BUILDINGS—

Maidstone Road	4	Gibraltar Farm	dairy
Purbeck Road.....	1	Henry Street...	slaughter house
Rochester Street	3	Luton Road.....	shop
Pagitt Street	2	Shipwrights' Arms,	
Capstone Road	2	Richard Street	
Street End Road.....	1	Mission Hall	
Palmerston Road.....	2	2 Bungalows and Shop at	
Rainham Road	5	Walderslade	
Albany Road.....	stable		

NEW ADDITIONS TO OLD BUILDINGS—

New Road	offices	143, Brook	
Railway Street,		The Victory, Brook	
Prince of Wales Hotel		The Three Cups, Brook	
125, Luton Road		Crown & Anchor, High Street	

2. NEW CESSPOOLS—

21, Cobden Road	22, Saunders Street
1, 2 & 3, Slicketts Hill	13 & 14, Prospect Row
Cordelia Place	15, Prospect Row
12 & 13, Prospect Row	47 & 49, Castle Road
Old Road Dairy	17, 19 & 21, Grange Hill
35 & 37, Sidney Road	1 to 5, Lumsden Terrace
1, Charter Street	Luton Dairy
4 & 6, Claremont Place	8, Claremont Place
112, Glencoe Road	6a, Bachelor Avenue
136, High Street	143, Brook
29, Union Street	347, High Street

3. CESSPOOLS DEEPENED—

18, 20, Alfred Street	26, 28, Seymour Road
59, Albany Road	89, Skinner Street
32, Claremont Place	53, Sidney Road
68, 70, Cross Street	5 and 7, Southill Road
4, 6, Claremont Place	21, Bush Street
8, Claremont Place	6a, Bachelor's Avenue
167, Castle Road	16a, Bachelor's Avenue
59, 61, Connaught Road	35, 37, Bush Street
176, Castle Road	13, 15, Bush Street
23, Chamberlain Road	186, Dale Street
Crown & Anchor	61, 63, 65, Edinburgh Road
2 and 4, Chalk Pitt Hill	35, 37, Edinburgh Road
16, Frederick Street	21, 23, Ebenezer Terrace

CESSPOOLS DEEPENED, Continued.

108, Glencoe Road	49, 51, Edinburgh Road
67, 69, Grove Road	31, 33, Ernest Road
13, Ingle Road	30, Hartington Street
39, Jeyes Street	56, 58, Hartington Street
39, John Street	52, Hartington Street
343, Luton Road	2, 4, Hards Town
349, Luton Road	11, 12, 13, 14, Herman Terrace
283, Luton Road	60, Henry Street
285, Luton Road	82, Henry Street
161, Luton Road	94, Henry Street
304, Luton Road	242, High Street
106, Luton Road	136, High Street
24, Luton Road	40, Hills Terrace
34, Luton Road	122, 124, Henry Street
8 and 10, Maidstone Road	106, 108, Henry Street
Masons' Arms	9, King's Road
34, 36, Maida Road	277, New Road
22, Mills Terrace	56, 58, Otway Street
Medway Union	83, 85, Otway Street
20, Meadow Bank	6, 8, Otway Street
103, 105, Mount Road	16, Paddock
34, 36, Melbourne Road	10, 12, Priest Dale
Samson's Road	21, 23, Russell Street
14, Sturla Road	102, 104, Rochester Street
17, Sturla Road	108, 110, Rochester Street
41, Sturla Road	29, Union Street
29, 31, Sturla Road	20, Waghorn Street

4. PRINCIPAL DRAINAGE WORK.—Panned and trapped closets in lieu of privies, with necessary drainage work, ventilation, and water supply :—

214, 216, 218, 220, 302, 304, 168, 170, 283, 285, 305, 307, 309, 315, 317, 329, 335, 337, 339, 341, 347, 349, Luton Road.

New Inn, Luton Road (2),	2, Hards Town,
4, 6, 8, Claremont Place,	39, John Street,
92, Constitution Road,	4, Medway Street,
Crown & Anchor, High St (2),	Medway Laundry,
Cordelia Place (4),	183, New Road,
41, 43, Fort Pitt Street,	74a, New Road,
2, Frederick Street,	24, Rochester Terrace,
17, 19, 21, Grange Hill.	1, Rhode Street.
347, High Street,	19, Richard Street,
56, Henry Street,	143, Brook (2),
10, Hills Terrace,	The Victory, Brook,
Hilton's Factory, Brook (2),	The Three Cups, Brook (2),
15, 17, Herman Terrace,	

In addition to the foregoing statements, many additions and alterations have been made in drainage work, cesspools repaired, w.c. structures re-built and repaired, drains ventilated and yards concreted.

Lists of the whole of the premises and the work done lies at the office of the Sanitary and Health Department, and is open to the perusal of any member of the Corporation.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. G. JOELS.



